

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HERMOS 00041 052149Z

72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 OPR-02 A-01 SY-10 H-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 SNM-02

/060 W

----- 126245

O 051900Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 506

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS HERMOSILLO 41

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS :CPRS,CASC,SWEL,PINR,SNAR,MX

SUBJECT :PRISON DISTURBANCES IN SONORA.

1. PENITENTIARIES IN BOTH HERMOSILLO AND NOGALES, SONORA EXPERIENCED SERIOUS TROUBLES MONDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 4. IN NOGALES AN AMERICAN PRISONER, KARL MAYWEATHER, WAS SHOT AND WOUNDED IN LEFT ARM WHILE REPORTEDLY TRYING TO ESCAPE, BUT IS IN GOOD CONDITION. NO AMERICANS INJURED IN HERMOSILLO, ALTHOUGH AT LEAST SEVEN MEXICAN PRISONERS KILLED BY SMOKE OR GAS INHALATION.

2. IN NOGALES, JAIL BREAK OCCURED FROM ITS NEW PENITENTIARY, WHICH WAS OCCUPAIED NEAR END OF LAST YEAR. SOME 35 MEXICAN PRISONERS ESCAPED BY YIELDING KNIVES FASHIONED IN PRISON WORKSHOP AND THUS SECURING GUNS AND HOSTAGES. ALL BUT FOURTEEN WERE RECAPTURED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AND HOSTAGES WERE FREED. FOURTEEN STILL AT LARGE BELIEVED TO HAVE DISAPPEARED INTO NEARBY HILLS. MAYWEATHER WAS SHOT TRYING TO GET OVER A WALL DURING THE DISTURBANCE. CONSULAR OFFICER NOW EN ROUTE TO NOGALES WILL TRY TO SEE MAYWEATHER AND OTHER AMERICAN PRISONERS TO VERIFY CONDITION.

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3. IN HERMOSILLO, FIRE BROKE OUT ABOUT 2:30 PM IN OLD

PENITENTIARY, WHICH STILL HOUSED NEARLY ALL THE PRISONERS
DESPITE INAUGURATION OF NEW PENITENTIARY LAST SEPTEMBER 12.
ONLY 84 PRISONERS HAD BEEN MOVED TO NEW QUARTERS (ON JANUARY 27)
INCLUDING ONLY ONE AMERICAN. FIRE YESTERDAY SAID BY AUTHORITIES
TO HAVE BEEN STARTED BY AMERICAN PRISONERS WHO BROKE INTO INFIRMARY
IN SEARCH OF DRUGS. IF TRUE, FORSEE POSSIBILITY THAT MURDER CHARGES
MIGHT BE BROUGHT AGAINST PARTICIPANTS, SINCE PRISONERS IN ISOLATION
CELLS DIED AS RESULT OF FIRE. OLD PENITENTIARY BUILDING BADLY
DAMAGED BY FIRE, AND WAS EVACUATED DURING THE NIGHT, ALL PRISONERS
BEING MOVED TO NEW JAIL. IF MOVE HAD TAKEN PLACE EARLIER, ALL THIS
MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.
YELTON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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